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Reindeer

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## CHAP. XX.

000 THIS chapter in the original contains an account of three different dialects of the *Kamtſchadales*; which, as they are very unintelligible to an *Engliſh* reader, we thought proper to omit.

## CHAP. XXI.

### *Of the* NATION *of the* KOREKI.

101 171 AS the *Koreki* and *Kuriles* agree in moſt of their cuſtoms and habits with the *Kamtſchadales*, we ſhall only take notice of thoſe things wherein they differ from them or from one another. The *Koreki*, as is above related, are divided into the rein-deer or wandering *Koreki*; and thoſe that are fixed in one place who live in huts in the earth like the *Kamtſchadales*, and in every other reſpect indeed reſemble them; ſo that whatever remarks we make are to be underſtood of the wandering *Koreki*, unleſs otherwiſe expreſſed.

101 131 The fixed *Koreki* live along the coaſt of the Eaſtern Ocean, from the river *Ukoi* as far as the *Anadir*, and along the coaſt of the ſea of *Penſchina* round the *Penſchina* bay to the ridge *Nuktchatmnin*, out of which the river *Nuktchan* riſes. From theſe rivers they take different appellations, by which they are diſtinguiſhed one from another. The wandering *Koreki* ſojourn with their herds of deer, and extend from

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from the Eaſtern Ocean weſt to the head of the rivers *Penſchina* and *Omolona*, north to the *Anadir*, and ſouth to the rivers *Leſnaya* and *Karaga*. Sometimes they come even over theſe bounds, approaching very near to *Kamtſchatka*; but this indeed happens very ſeldom, and only when they are afraid of the *Tchukotſkoi*, who are their moſt dangerous neighbours. The people that they border upon are the *Kamtſchadales*, the *Tchukotſkoi*, *Ukageri*, and the *Tunguſi* or *Lamuti*.

The *Tcukotſkoi* ſhould be accounted a race of the *Koreki*, which in truth they are; if ſo, then it may be ſaid that the country of the *Koreki* is of far greater extent, for the *Tchukotſkoi* poſſeſs northward from the river *Anadir* as far as the *Tchukotſkoi* promontory. Indeed, thoſe *Tchukotſkoi* that live north of the river *Anadir* are not ſubject to the empire of *Ruſſia*, but frequently make incurſions upon thoſe that are, both *Koreki* and *Tchukotſkoi*, killing and making them priſoners, and driving off their herds of deer. In the ſummer time they fiſh not only in the ſeas near the mouth of the *Anadir*, but even come up the river a great way, when thoſe people who are ſubjects to *Ruſſia* frequently fall into their hands.

The *Koreki* differ not only in their manners from one another, but alſo in the form of their bodies. The wandering *Koreki*, as far as I could obſerve, are of ſmall ſtature, and very lean; they have ſmall heads, and black hair, which they ſhave every day; their face is oval, their eyes ſmall, eyebrows hanging, noſe ſhort, mouth large, and their beard black and pointed, which they frequently pluck. The fixed *Koreki*, though not of a very large ſtature, are however taller than the former, and thicker and ſtronger made; eſpecially thoſe that live towards the north, who reſemble a good deal the *Kamtſchadales* and *Tchukotſkoi*.

There is beſides a very great difference in their cuſtoms and habits. The wandering *Koreki* are extremely jealous, and ſometimes kill their wives upon ſuſpicion only; but when any

any are caught in adultery, both parties are certainly condemned to death. For this reaſon the women ſeem to take pains to make themſelves diſagreeable; for they never waſh their faces or hands, nor comb their hair, and their upper garments are dirty, ragged, and torn, the beſt being worn underneath. This they are obliged to do on account of the jealouſy of their huſbands; who ſay, that a woman has no occaſion to adorn herſelf unleſs to gain the affections of a ſtranger, for her huſband loves her without that. On the contrary, the fixed *Koreki*, and *Tchukotſkoi*, look upon it as the trueſt mark of friendſhip, when they entertain a friend, to put him to bed with their wife or daughter; and a refuſal of this civility they conſider as the greateſt affront; and are even capable of murdering a man for ſuch a contempt. This happened to ſeveral *Ruſſian* Coſſacks before they were acquainted with the cuſtoms of the people. The wives of the fixed *Koreki* endeavour to adorn themſelves as much as poſſible, painting their faces, wearing fine cloaths, and uſing various means to ſet off their perſons. In their huts they ſit quite naked, even in the company of ſtrangers.

The whole nation is rude, paſſionate, revengeful, and cruel; and the wandering *Koreki* are alſo proud and vain: they imagine that no people in the world are ſo happy as themſelves, regarding all the accounts that ſtrangers give of the advantages of other countries, as ſo many lies and fables; for, ſay they, "If you could enjoy theſe advantages at home, what made you take ſo much trouble to come to us? You ſeem to want ſeveral things which we have; we, on the contrary, are ſatisfied with what we poſſeſs, and never come to you to ſeek any thing". One great reaſon of their pride and haughtineſs may be owing to the ſettled or fixed *Koreki*, who ſhew the greateſt fear and awe of them; ſo that if one of their deer-herds ſhould come to a hut of the latter, they all run out to meet him, treat him with the greateſt

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greateſt ceremony, and bear every affront. It was never heard that the ſettled *Koreki* did the leaſt injury to any of the wanderers; and this is ſo firmly believed, that our tax-gatherers think themſelves entirely ſafe, when they converſe with thoſe who live in huts, if they are guarded by one of the rein-deer *Koreki*: which may appear very ſtrange, conſidering that the ſettled *Koreki* are much their ſuperiors in ſtrength; and it can only be attributed to that general reſpect which poor people pay to the rich: for the poverty of the ſettled *Koreki* is ſo great, that they depend upon the others in a great meaſure for their cloathing. The rein-deer *Koreki* call the others their ſlaves, and treat them accordingly; but they behave very differently to the *Tchukotſkoi*, who are ſo terrible to them, that fifty of the rein-deer *Koreki* dare not ſtand againſt twenty of theſe; and if it was not for the protection of the Coſſacks of *Anadir*, the *Tchukotſkoi* would have rooted them out by this time. As every nation has ſomething commendable, ſo the *Koreki* are more honeſt and induſtrious than the *Kamtſchadales*, and ſeem to have a greater ſenſe of ſhame.

It is difficult to form an exact account of the numbers and different families of the *Koreki*, but it is thought that all together they are more numerous than the *Kamtſchadales*. They live in ſuch places as abound with moſs for their rein-deer, without regarding the ſcarcity of wood or water: in the winter time they can uſe ſnow for water, and for firing moſs or graſs, of which they have plenty every where. Their manner of living, eſpecially in the winter time, is ſtill more diſagreeable than that of the *Kamtſchadales*: for being frequently obliged to change their habitations, the huts which they come into are all frozen; and when they begin to thaw them by the fires, which are uſually made of green ſhrubs or graſs, there ariſes a ſmoke, ſo pernicious to the eyes, that it is enough to blind a perſon entirely in one day.



1. [i.e., the Reindeer Koryak -- Analyst]

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231 264 342 Their huts are made much in the ſame manner as thoſe of other wandering people, but leſs than thoſe of the *Calmucks*. In the winter they cover them with raw deer-ſkins, and in the ſummer with tanned. They have no flooring or ſeparation within their huts; in the middle only are four little ſtakes driven, between which is their hearth. To theſe ſtakes they commonly tie their dogs, which frequently drag the victuals out of the kettles while it is dreſſing; and notwithſtanding their maſters beat them very ſeverely, they generally come in for a ſhare of every piece. A man muſt be very hungry to be able to eat with theſe people. Inſtead of waſhing their kettles or platters they give them to the dogs to lick, and the very fleſh which they tear from the mouths of the dogs they throw again into the kettles without waſhing it.

171 342 The *Tchukotſkoi* winter huts are much preferable to thoſe of the *Koreki*, being much warmer and more roomy. Several families live in the ſame hut, all having their proper benches, upon which deer-ſkins are ſpread, whereon they ſit or ſleep. Upon each bench a lamp burns day and night, for which they uſe fiſh-oil and a wick of moſs. They have an opening in the top, which ſerves for a chimney; however they are almoſt as ſmoaky as thoſe of the *Koreki*, but ſo warm, that in the coldeſt places the women ſit naked. The cloaths which they wear are made of rein-deer ſkins, not differing in the leaſt from thoſe of the *Kamtſchadales*, who purchaſe them from the *Koreki*.

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They feed upon the fleſh of the rein-deer, in which they very much abound, ſome of the rich having ten or twenty thouſand; nay, one of the chiefs was ſaid to have one hundred thouſand: but yet they are ſo penurious, that they are ſorry to kill any for their own uſe, ſatisfying themſelves with ſuch as die naturally, or are killed by the wolves. Of this carrion, indeed, they have plenty; and they are not aſhamed to excuſe themſelves from entertaining travellers by telling them that none of their deer

233 556 262 574

deer are killed or have died lately

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deer are killed or have died lately. For particular gueſts, indeed, they will kill ſome of their ſtock, and at ſuch times only they have a hearty meal. They never milk the rein-deer, nor know any uſe of milk. They eat their fleſh for the moſt part boiled, and what they do not conſume immediately they dry with the ſmoke in their huts. One of their principal diſhes is called *yamgaya*, which is made thus; they put the blood of the beaſt mixed with ſome fat into its ſtomach or paunch, which they hang up and ſmoke. Our Coſſacks reckon this a great delicacy. Beſides, the *Koreki* eat every other animal except dogs and foxes. They uſe, in general, neither herbs, roots, nor barks of trees; but the poor feed on them in time of great ſcarcity; nor will any catch fiſh, except the deer-herds, and that very ſeldom. They make no proviſion of berries for the winter, but only eat them freſh in the ſummer. They think nothing can be ſweeter than cranberries beat up with the root ſaran and deer's fat. I had an opportunity of ſeeing one of their chieftains exceedingly ſurpriſed upon the firſt ſight of ſugar, which he took for ſalt; but taſting it was ſo pleaſed with its ſweetneſs, that he begged ſome pieces to carry to his wives: but, as he was not able to reſiſt the temptation of ſo delicious a rarity, he ate it all up on the road; and when he came home to his houſe, although he ſwore to the women that he had taſted ſalt ſweeter than any thing he had ever taſted before, yet they would not believe him, inſiſting that nothing could be ſweeter than cranberries with deer's fat and lilly-roots.

They ride only in the winter time on ſledges drawn by rein-deer, but never mount upon their backs in the ſummer, as they ſay the *Tunguſi* do. Their ſledges are made about a fathom long: the ſides are about four inches thick, but rather thinner at the fore part, where they are bent upwards: the two ſide-pieces are joined together by ſmall pieces of wood. They yoke two

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492 deer before every ſledge. The harneſs is ſomewhat like that they yoke two uſe for reins of the dogs; the harneſs of that deer which is on the right ſide being faſtened to the left ſide of the ſledge, and that of the deer on the left ſide to the right ſide of the ſledge. Their bridles and reins are ſomething like the collars of horſes. Upon the deer's forehead they have four little bones, made like teeth, but very ſharp, which are uſed as bits to pull them in when they run too faſt; for theſe ſharp bones piercing the ſkin ſtop them at once. The right hand deer only has theſe bones; for if that is ſtopped, the deer upon the left has not ſtrength to run away. The drivers ſit near the fore part of the ſledge; and if they want to turn to the right they only draw the rein, but when they would turn to the left they beat the right ſide of the deer. They drive them with a goad, which is about four feet long, having a ſharp piece of bone at one end, and at the other a hook: with the bone they prick the deer to go forwards, and with the hook they lift up the harneſs when it happens to fall down.

Travelling with rein-deer is much ſwifter than with dogs: good cattle will go 150 verſts a day; but you muſt take care to feed them frequently, and to ſtop often to allow them to ſtale; for you may kill them in one day, or at leaſt make them good
492 for nothing. Deer that are uſed for draught are bred to it, as
233 horſes. The male they geld, which is done by piercing the ſpermatick veſſels, and tying them tight with thongs. The rein-deer which the *Koreki* uſe for draught feed along with the others; and when they want to part them, they drive them all home; then crying aloud in a particular manner, the draught cattle ſeparate themſelves from the reſt; and if any of them ſhould remain, they are beat moſt unmercifully.

233 The ſettled *Koreki* have likewiſe ſome rein-deer, but very few, and thoſe ſuch as they only uſe for drawing. The *Tchu-*

*kotſkoi*

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*kotſkoi* have great herds, and yet feed for the moſt part upon ſea animals. The *Koreki* would be miſerable if they wanted the rein-deer: for they know no way of keeping themſelves alive, as they do not underſtand how to catch fiſh; and if they did, could not ſoon provide themſelves with boats, nets, or dogs: ſo that the poorer ſort are employed by the richer in feeding their deer, for which they receive meat and cloaths; and if they have any ſmall ſtock of their own, they are allowed to feed them with their maſter's cattle.

The rein-deer *Koreki* exchange their deer and deer-ſkins with the neighbouring people for the very fineſt furrs, of which they have always a large ſtock by them.

The religion of the *Koreki* is more abſurd than that of the *Kamtſchadales*, at leaſt that little chief, of whom I had my information, ſeemed to have ſcarce any idea of a God; they ſeem more to reſpect evil ſpirits, which, according to their opinion, inhabit the rivers and woods: this reſpect ſeems to be owing to their fear. The ſettled *Koreki* acknowledge for their God, the *Kuta* of the *Kamtſchadales*. They have no fixt time of worſhip or offering ſacrifices; but, whenever they pleaſe, they kill either a rein-deer or a dog, which they fix upon a ſtake, turning its face towards the eaſt, leaving only the deer's head and tongue upon the ſtake. They themſelves do not know to whom they make theſe ſacrifices, and only uſe theſe words, *Vio coing yack ne la lu, han be vau*; that is, This to you, and may you ſend us ſomething that is good. The time of ſacrificing is when they are going to paſs any river or waſte, which they think the devils inhabit; then they kill one of their deer, and eating the fleſh, they faſten the bones of the head upon a pole, which they fix oppoſite to the habitation of the ſpirits. When the *Koreki* are afraid of any infectious diſtemper, they kill a dog, and winding the guts upon two poles, they paſs between them.

During

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756 During their ſacrifices their *ſhamans* or ſorcerers beat a little
785 drum like that uſed by the *Jakutſki*, and the neighbouring nations. Some of the *Shamans* are reckoned phyſicians, and are thought, by beating upon the drum, to drive away diſtempers. In the year 1739 I had an opportunity of ſeeing, at the lower *Kamtſchatkoi* fort, the moſt famous *Shaman Carimlacha*, who was not only of great reputation among theſe wild people, but was alſo reſpected by our Coſſacks, for the many extraordinary feats that he performed; particularly that of ſtabbing his belly with a knife, and letting a great quantity of blood run out, which he drank: however this he performed in ſuch an awkward manner, that any one, who was not blinded by ſuperſtition, might eaſily diſcover the trick. At firſt, ſitting upon his knees, and beating ſome time upon his drum, he ſtruck his knife into his belly, and then, from below his furred coat, he drew out a handful of blood, which he eat, licking his fingers. I could not help laughing at the ſimplicity of the trick, which the pooreſt player of legerdemain would have been aſhamed of. One might ſee him ſlip the knife down below his furr, and that he ſqueezed the blood out of a bladder which he had in his boſom. After all this conjuration he thought ſtill to ſurpriſe us more by ſhewing us his belly all bloody, pretending to have cured the wound which he
756 had not made. He told us, that the evil ſpirits appeared to him
776 in different forms, and came from different places; ſome came
787 from the ſea, others out of the burning mountains; ſome of them were very large, and ſome very ſmall; ſome had no hands, and ſome were half burned; the ſpirits of the ſea were much finer dreſſed than the others, and appeared to him as it were in a dream, and at ſuch a time they tormented him ſo much, that he was almoſt out of his ſenſes.

755 When the ſorcerers pretend to cure any diſtemper by their
782 conjurations, ſometimes they order a dog to be killed, at other times

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times to ſet little rods round their huts. When they kill a dog, one perſon holds it by the head, another by the tail, and a third ſtabs it in the ſide; when it is dead they ſtick it upon a ſtake, turning its face towards the neareſt burning mountain.

Their civil policy is as rude as their religious; they know nothing of dividing the year into months; they have names indeed for the four ſeaſons. They have only names for the four cardinal winds. Of the conſtellations they know the Great Bear, which they call, in their language, the wild rein-deer; the Pleiades they name the duck's neſt; and the Milky Way the ſcattered river.

The diſtance of places they reckon by their day's journey, which is between 30 and 50 verſts.

Before they were ſubject to the Empire of *Ruſſia* they never had any government or chief magiſtrate among them, only thoſe that were rich had ſome ſort of authority over the poor; nor before that did they know any thing of an oath. At preſent, inſtead of ſwearing upon the croſs or goſpel, our Coſſacks oblige them to hold a muſquet by the barrel, threatening, that whoever does not obſerve this oath will certainly be ſhot by a ball. This they are ſo much afraid of, that rather than clear themſelves by this oath, if guilty, they will confeſs their crime.

They are quite ignorant of all good manners, not only in common compliments, but in receiving ſtrangers, whom they treat with an air of ſuperiority. When they entertain their gueſts they don't oblige them to over-eat themſelves, as the *Kamtſchadales* do, but give them what they have in ſufficient plenty; their beſt victuals is fat meat, and all theſe barbarous nations are exceſſively fond of fat. The *Jakutſki* would loſe an eye for a piece of fat horſe fleſh, and the *Tchukotſkoi* for a fat dog. The *Jakutſki* know that the ſtealing of any cattle is puniſhed with the loſs of all their goods; yet, if they have an opportunity, they can't reſtrain themſelves from ſtealing a fat horſe, comforting themſelves amidſt

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000 amidſt all their misfortunes, with the pleaſure of having once in their life made a delicious meal.

685 Amongſt all theſe barbarous nations, excepting the *Kamtſchadales*,
171 theft is reputable, provided they do not ſteal in their own tribe,
619 or if done with ſuch art as to prevent diſcovery; on the other hand, it is puniſhed very ſeverely if diſcovered, not for the theft, but for want of addreſs in the art of ſtealing. A *Tchukotſkoi* girl cannot be married before ſhe has ſhewn her dexterity in this way.

682 Murder is not looked upon as a great crime unleſs it be in
619 their own tribe, and then the relations of the murdered generally revenge it, but no one elſe takes any notice of it.

582 In their marriages the rich match with the rich, and the poor with the poor, with little regard either to beauty or any other accompliſhment. They marry for the moſt part into their own family, ſuch as with a firſt couſin, an aunt, or mother-in-law; and, in ſhort, with any relation except their own mother or daughter.

583 The ceremonies of courtſhip are the ſame as among the *Kamtſ-*
836 *chadales*. Although the bridegroom ſhould be very rich, yet he is obliged to ſerve three or five years for his bride; during which time they allow them to ſleep together, though the form of catching the bride ſhould not be performed, which they leave 'till the marriage be celebrated, and that is done without any
595 great ceremony. They have ſometimes two, and ſometimes three
233 wives, whom they keep at different places, giving them a herd of deer and a keeper. Their greateſt pleaſure is to go from place to place and examine their cattle; and it is ſurpriſing that the *Koreki*, notwithſtanding their herds are ſo numerous, and they are quite ignorant of arithmetick, can immediately diſcover the leaſt loſs, and even deſcribe all the marks of the deer that is miſſing.

858 They have a great fondneſs for their children, and breed them up from their infancy to labour and oeconomy. Thoſe that

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that are rich, as ſoon as the child is born, ſet apart for him a certain number of rein-deer, which however he cannot claim 'till he comes to maturity. The old women give names to the children, with the following ceremonies :---They ſet up two little rods, which they tie together with threads, to the middle of which they hang a ſtone wrapped in a piece of ſheep-ſkin ; then they aſk of the ſtone in a muttering voice the name they ſhall give, and running over thoſe of ſeveral of their relations, whatever name the ſtone ſhakes at they give to the child. The child-bed woman does not ſhew herſelf nor come out of the hut for ten days ; if they are obliged to remove their habitations during that time, ſhe is carried in a covered ſledge. They give their children the breaſt 'till they are three years old and upwards ; but they uſe neither cradle nor ſwaddling cloaths.

They carefully attend thoſe who are ſick, and their *Shamans*, or conjurers, treat them in the manner above related ; but they know nothing of the virtues of drugs or plants.

They burn their dead in the following manner :---Having firſt dreſſed them in their fineſt apparel, they draw them with thoſe deer which they think were their favourites to the place where they are to be burned. Here they erect a great pile of wood, into which are thrown the arms of the deceaſed and ſome houſhold furniture, ſuch as their ſpear, quiver and arrows, knives, hatchets, kettles, &c. Then they ſet fire to the pile ; and while it is burning, kill the deer that drew the corps, upon which they feaſt, and throw the fragments into the fire.

They celebrate the memory of the dead only once, and that a year after their death. All the relations then aſſemble ; and taking two young rein-deers that have never been in the draught, and a great many deers' horns, which they have been collecting through the whole year for that purpoſe, they go to the place where the body was burned, if near, or if at a diſtance, to ſome other high place, where they kill the deer ;

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765 783 and the *Shaman*, driving the horns into the earth, pretends that he ſends a herd of deer to the dead. After this they return home, and in order to purify themſelves, they paſs between two rods which are fixed in the ground; the *Shaman*, at the ſame time beating them with another, conjures the dead not to take them away.

171 726 411 462 In all other cuſtoms and ceremonies they agree with the *Kamtſchadales*; as in making war, which is generally by ſurpriſing their enemies. Their arms conſiſt in bows, arrows, and ſpears, formerly pointed with bones or flint. Their women are employed in dreſſing their furrs, making cloaths and ſhoes. The *Koreki* women, indeed, are employed in cookery, which thoſe of *Kamtſchatka* are not.

CHAP.